Instructions for Using Survey Data Collection Sheets

These instructions are meant to provide assistance in using the new survey data collection sheets. There are 4 basic sheets, one for netting activities, one for gill netting, one for lake electrofishing and one for stream electrofishing. The correct sheet should be used for the correct activity. All information is **required** unless otherwise stated. A separate sheet should be used for each net or electrofishing run or the data collected under separate columns on the same sheet provided the summary information can be keyed to the correct data. The information collected in these fields is vital in assessing how the data can be used for comparisons and whether the data should be incorporated into the statewide database. If the fields are not correctly entered, then the data has limited usefulness.

Lake/Stream: This is the correct lake/stream name as specified in the Wisconsin Lakes/Streams manual. This is required for all surveys. Do not enter local names.

MWBCode: This is the correct seven digit master water body code as found in the master water body index. If no code is available or you are unsure of the correct code, please contact the data coordinator for the correct code.

Date: This is the day the data were collected. This is not the day when the gear was deployed or when the sheets were summarized.

County: This is the two digit numeric code for the correct county in which the lake is located. If you need a correct copy of the county codes, please contact the data coordinator.

Collector: This is the person responsible for data collection. It does not necessarily have to be the data recorder, but should be the individual responsible for correct data collection procedures. This person should be a member of the survey crew.

Target Fish: This is the target species for which the gear was deployed. For example, fyke nets set in the spring for collection of spawning walleyes or electrofishing in the fall for young-of-the-year walleye. It is possible to target more than one species during sampling. For example, electrofishing for both bass and bluegills.

Survey Type: This is the survey type used to collect the data. For example, either a comprehensive survey or an evaluation of walleye 15 inch size limit. Again more than one survey type might be possible for this blank.

Mark Given: This is the two digit fin clip code found in the Fish Management Handbook. This code should be used when a mark is given to a fish. If more than one mark is given, then the correct code should be given for all mark types.

H_20 Temp: This is the surface water temperature taken at the start of each sampling day. This temperature is an offshore temperature taken at least 100 yards from the shore. In a stream this temperature should be taken at least 5 feet from the bank. The temperature should be recorded to the nearest degree Fahrenheit.

Time: This is the time when sampling commences. This should be recorded using the 24 hour clock. This should be the time when electrofishing begins or when the first net is lifted.

Lake Electrofishing Data Collection Sheet

Adverse Conditions: This line should only be filled in when weather conditions have significantly impacted sampling ability. For example, strong winds, algae blooms, net collapse, holes in net, etc. A standard type of coding will be developed for the most common types of inclement conditions. If no adverse conditions are encountered, then this line should be blank.

H_20 Conduct: This is the water conductivity at the beginning of shocking. This should be expressed to the micromhos/cm.

Station: This is the station at which electrofishing was conducted. Stations should be marked on a lake map such that later efforts can duplicate earlier sampling efforts.

Latitude: This is the latitude of the station.

Longitude: This is the longitude of the station.

Volts: This is the volts employed when electrofishing.

Amps: This is the average amps used when electrofishing. Although number of amps may vary throughout a run, try to pick an average amp reading.

Current Type: This is the type of current employed for electrofishing. Please circle the current type used.

Pulse Rate: This is the pulse rate used when shocking with pulsed DC electrofishing gear. This should be reported in pulses per second. This only needs to be reported when using pulsed DC.

Duty Cycle: This is the ratio of time on to total time within one cycle. This should be expressed as a percentage. This is only required for DC electrofishing.

Gear Type: Please list the gear used to shock the lake. For most surveys this will be a lake boom shocker, but on some smaller lakes this might include a mini-boomshocker.

Start Time: This is the time that the safety circuit is engaged and electrofishing commences. This is not the time the boat is launched. This time should be taken from an hour meter placed on the control box. This should be recorded to the nearest tenth of an hour.

End Time: This is the time that the safety circuit is disengaged and electrofishing is discontinued. This is not the time you arrived back at the station. This time should be taken from an hour meter placed on the control box. This time should be recorded to the nearest tenth of an hour. Each separate electrofishing run should have separate start and stop times listed. If you stop to work up fish, record an end time and a starting time when electrofishing starts again.

Distance Shocked: This is the shoreline distance shocked to the nearest tenth of a mile. This number will be recorded regardless of whether the entire shoreline was shocked or not. This number can be taken from hydrographic maps or from direct measures of the shoreline.

# of Dippers: This is the number of individuals dipping fish. This should include only individuals located on the deck and actively dipping fish. This does not include boat drivers or other individuals not located on the main dipping platform.

Entire Shoreline Shocked: Circle Y if the entire shoreline was shocked or N if a random subsample of shoreline was shocked. If index stations were shocked, circle I.

Dipnet Mesh Size: This is the size of the mesh used in the dipnets. Please report this to the nearest 0.25 inch. Please write down all sizes that apply.

H_20 Clarity: Circle the term which best describes the water clarity encountered when sampling. This should be in relationship to normal summer clarity. This should describe the ability to see fish.